United Nations A/C.3/67/L.16

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
11 October 2012

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Third Committee
Agenda item 103
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Belarus: draft resolution

Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its concern that despite sustained measures taken at the international, regional and national levels, trafficking in persons remains one of the grave challenges facing the international community, which also impairs the enjoyment of human rights and needs a more concerted collective and comprehensive international response,

Recalling its resolution 64/178 of 18 December 2009 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons and other relevant General Assembly resolutions on trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,[1]

Reaffirming its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010 on the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/33 of 25 July 2008 on strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons and previous Council resolutions on trafficking in persons,

Taking note with appreciation of resolution 20/3 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice of 15 April 2011 entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons",[2]

Taking note with appreciation also of Human Rights Council resolution 20/1 of 5 July 2012, entitled "Trafficking in persons, especially women and children: access to effective remedies for trafficked persons and their right to the effective

[1] Resolutions 55/67, 58/137, 59/166, 61/144, 61/180, 63/156 and 63/194.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 10* (E/2011/30), chap. I, sect. D.

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remedy for human rights violations", and other relevant Human Rights Council resolutions on trafficking in persons,[3]

Recalling the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[4] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[5] the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[6] and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,[7]

Recognizing that, in accordance with article 32 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention is established to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention by facilitating the development and exchange of relevant information, programmes and practices, and by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, and recognizing also that each State party shall provide the Conference of the Parties with information on its programmes, plans and practices, as well as legislative and administrative measures to implement the Convention,

Recognizing the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on good practices, of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in particular the resolution entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons", adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe at its twentieth session, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Ministerial Council Declaration on Combating All Forms of Human Trafficking of 7 December 2011, and the Final Document of the Sixteenth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,

Recognizing also that broad international cooperation between Member States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations is essential for effectively countering the threat of trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,

Noting with appreciation the steps taken by the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on violence against children, the Special Rapporteur of the Council on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Special Rapporteur of the Council on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, and United

[3] Resolutions 8/12, 11/3, 14/2 and 17/1.
[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[5] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.
[6] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.
[7] Ibid., vol. 266, No. 3822.

Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their existing mandates, as well as civil society, to address the serious crime of trafficking in persons, and encouraging them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible,

Recognizing the important role of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons in fostering coordination and cooperation in the global fight against trafficking in persons, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration and other intergovernmental organizations within their existing mandates,

Recognizing the need to continue fostering a global partnership against trafficking in persons and other contemporary forms of slavery,

Recognizing that the current global economic crises are likely to further aggravate the problem of trafficking in persons,

Aware of the need to raise public awareness with the aim of eliminating the demand for trafficking in persons, in particular for the purpose of sexual exploitation and forced labour,

Reaffirming the commitment made by world leaders at the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit and the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in 2010 to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[8] which focuses, inter alia, on issues of trafficking in persons,

Welcoming the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,[9]

Taking note of the outcomes of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime at its sixth session, held in Vienna from 15 to 19 October 2012,[10] and the outcomes of the fourth session of the Open-ended Interim Working Group on the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 10 to 12 October 2011,

Reaffirming the importance of humanitarian, legal and financial aid to victims of trafficking in persons, including through the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund

[8] A/67/156.

[9] See A/67/261.

[10] See CTOC/COP/2012/__.

for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, established in compliance with the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[11]

Welcoming the interactive dialogue of the General Assembly on the theme "Fighting human trafficking: partnership and innovation to end violence against women and girls", held in New York on 3 April 2012, which provided an opportunity for Member States, international organizations, civil society and the private sector to unite as one in the global fight against trafficking in persons,

Welcoming also the accession in the period from 2010 to 2012 by a number of Member States to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which brings the number of parties to 168, and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which brings the number of parties to 148,

1. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[4] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[5] and to implement fully all aspects of those instruments;

2. *Also urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider taking measures to ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[6] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery,[7] and to implement fully all aspects of those instruments;

3. *Calls upon* Governments to continue their efforts to criminalize trafficking in persons in all its forms, including for labour exploitation and sexual exploitation of children, to take measures to criminalize child sex tourism, to condemn the practice of trafficking in persons, and to investigate, prosecute, condemn and penalize traffickers and intermediaries, while providing protection and assistance to the victims of trafficking with full respect for their human rights, and invites Member States to continue to support those United Nations agencies and international organizations that are actively involved in victim protection;

4. *Encourages* all stakeholders, including the private sector, to strengthen the coordination of efforts, including through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and regional and bilateral initiatives that promote cooperation and collaboration;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of comparable data disaggregated by types of trafficking in persons, sex and age, as well as of strengthening national capacity for the gathering, analysing and reporting of such data, and welcomes the efforts of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, drawing on the comparative advantages of the respective agencies, to share information, experiences and good practices on anti-trafficking activities of the partner agencies with Governments, other international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies;

[11] Resolution 64/293, annex.

6. *Acknowledges* the important work on data collection and analysis conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime under its Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings, by the International Organization for Migration through its global Counter-Trafficking Module database and by the International Labour Organization;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandates on combating trafficking in persons, in conformity with its high priorities, and to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites Member States to provide voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the purpose of providing assistance to Member States upon request;

8. *Expresses its support* for the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in fighting trafficking in persons, and looks forward to the launch, within existing resources, of the report entitled "Trafficking in persons: global patterns" produced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as called for in General Assembly resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, at United Nations Headquarters in December 2012;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue within existing reporting obligations, the practice of including a section on the implementation by the United Nations system of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons[11] in his report to the General Assembly under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice;

10. *Invites* States and all other relevant stakeholders to continue contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

11. *Recalls* its decision to conduct in 2013 an appraisal of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and decides to convene, within existing resources, a high-level meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with Member States, to take all necessary measures to arrange that high-level meeting, and invites the President of the General Assembly to conduct open-ended informal consultations with Member States with a view to determining the modalities of that meeting;

13. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to prepare a summary of the high-level meeting;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.